

Changes in Haj Representation Act, 1959

2812. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, the Central Haj Committee have sought changes in the Haj Representation Act of 1959 so as to make it more representative;

(b) if so, details of the suggestions made by the Committee in this regard;

(c) whether Government have examined the suggestions; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) The Central Haj Committee as well as the All India Haj Conference attended by the representatives of the Central and State Haj Committees have recommended to Government that a new Haj legislation be enacted to replace the Haj Committee Act of 1959.

(b) The Committee has sought an early enactment of legislation to bring about a broad-based representation of all regions of the Country in the Central Haj Committee.

(c) and (d) The Government have examined the suggestions, and legislative proposals to implement these suggestions are under active consideration.

Trade between India and Morocco

2813. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Moroccan Centre for Export Promotion have signed an agreement to promote trade and economic relations between the two countries;

(b) if so, the main details of the agreement; and

(c) to what extent trade and economic relations will be improved, during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) and the Mproccan Centre for Export Promotion (MCEP) have signed an Agreement on 22nd April, 1996 in Rabat (Morocco) to promote trade and economic relations between the two countries.

(b) The agreement focuses on promoting direct contact between Moroccan and Indian business undertakings in various fields of economic activity which include exchange of trade information, visits of business delegation, participation in each others fairs and specialised exhibitions, utilisation of research materials and exchange of information about third market activities.

(c) Bilateral trade between India and Morocco increased from Rs. 904.68 crores during 1994-95 to Rs. 1089.34 crores during 1995-96. This upward trend is expected to grow further during 1996-97

"Bachpan Bachao Andolan" Allahabad

2814. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government have been drawn towards criticism made by several social organisations including "Bachpan Bachao Andolan" of Allahabad for not initiating any steps to eliminate child labour;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are committed to provide social justice to all people including children;